(b) in what manner it will help the country in oil sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) During the 15th session of the Indian-Iraqi joint commission for economic and technical cooperation held in Baghdad on 6th & 7th July, 2002, issues of mutual interest in the oil sector, relating to the upstream sector, downstream sector and supply of crude oil from Iraq were discussed. However, no agreement has been entered into.

Subsidy on LPG and Kerosene

2199. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided a flat rate of subsidy on LPG and Kerosene immediately;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) to what extent the consumers will be benefited from this subsidy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (c) As perthe Government decision on dismantling of Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM), domestic LPG and PDS kerosene will continue to be subsidised post APM. The subsidy on these products will be on a specified flat rate basis from 1st April, 2002 and the retail price will vary as per the price changes in the international market. The flat rates of subsidy have not been assessed as yet.

India's Share in Global Tourism

2200. DR.T.SUBBARAMIREDDY:
SHRI K.NATWAR SINGH:

Will the Minister ofTOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been reported that India and China will be the toppers in travel sector;